FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SECURITY : UNCLASSIFIED PRIORITY: Air Pouch

TO : Department of State

755.00/6-250

FROM : AmEmbassy, Brussels No. 747, June 2, 1950

REF :

SUBJECT : ROYAL QUESTION

49

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RECD JUN 12

ACTION EUR

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According to Le Soir of June 3, 1950, the King's Secretary, Mr. Pirenne, stated to a reporter of Nieuwe Gids that the King never declared that he would not come back under a homogeneous P.S.C. Government.

Le Soir's article and a translation of the relevant passages are enclosed.

Chalmers B. Wood
Third Secretary

Enclosures:

Article from Le Soir.
Translation of relevant passages.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS MESSAGE SECTION

JUN 21 1950

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY J.L. SMITH DATE NOV 17 1982

RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE

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JUN 1950

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The action office must return this permanent record copy to DC/R files with an endorsement of action taken.

ENCLOSURE TO Brussels Despatch No. 747, June 2, 1950.

TRANSLATION OF RELEVANT PORTION OF PIRENNE'S STATEMENT:

It has been claimed that the King would not come back under a homogeneous P.S.C. government. The King never declared that he would be opposed to an eventual return under a homogeneous government. The King, on the contrary, has always upheld the point of view that the rules of the Parliamentary game should be followed to the limit. He has formulated the wish that the quarrel concerning himself should be stopped and that the parties should reach an agreement. He has refused to go further or to become entangled in the policies of the parties. His only decision has been communicated to the Presidents of the two Chambers.

The King will take no political responsibility so long as his prerogatives have not been given back to him. If the Parliament - whose decision he has accepted in advance - should give him his prerogatives, he would consider it his duty to respond to this appeal to reign.

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